

Message Text

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ACTION FBO-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 A-01 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

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P 121015Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7467

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ABLD, AFSP, UR, US

SUBJ: KIEV PROPERTIES

1. I MADE AN UNOFFICIAL VISIT TO KIEV AUG 10 AND 11. IN ADDITION TO VISITING OUR EXHIBIT "PHOTOGRAPHY USA", AND VIEWING PROPOSED PROPERTIES FOR US CONSULATE GENERAL, I ALSO PAID CALL AUG 11 ON DEPUTY MAYOR LAVRUKHIN, WHO HAS BEEN SENIOR KIEV OFFICIAL DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN NEGOTIATIONS CONCERNING ESTABLISHMENT OF CONSULATE GENERAL IN KIEV.

2. LAVRUKHIN, WHO HAD JUST RETURNED FROM MONTH'S LEAVE, SEEMED IN RATHER DOUR MOOD. I STRESSED MY PERSONAL INTEREST, STEMMING FROM MY PARTICIPATION IN NEGOTIATING LANGUAGE IN 1974 US-SOVIET COMMUNIQUE CONCERNING CONSULATES, IN SEEING NEGOTIATIONS BROUGHT TO SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION ON ESTABLISHMENT SOVIET AND US CONSULATES GENERAL IN NEW YORK AND KIEV RESPECTIVELY. I TOLD LAVRUKHIN I HAD SEEN PROPOSED PROPERTIES IN KIEV AND FELT WE WERE VERY CLOSE TO SOLUTION OF OUR PROBLEMS. I DID NOT WISH TO GO INTO DETAILS, WHICH WOULD BE HANDLED BY TRACY AND PORTER IN SUBSEQUENT TALKS WITH HIM, BUT IT SEEMED TO ME THAT DIFFERENCE BETWEEN US CONCERNING 3-METER STRIP AT STRELETSKAYA SHOULD BE CAPABLE OF SPEEDY RESOLUTION. LIKewise, OUR EXPRESSED PREFERENCE FOR FIRST AND SECOND FLOORS AT GORKY SHOULD

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NOT PRESENT GREAT DIFFICULTIES. I TOLD LAVRUKHIN WE

HAD MADE EVERY EFFORT TO BE FORTHCOMING IN OUR ATTITUDE TOWARD SOVIET REQUESTS IN CONNECTION WITH THEIR CONSULATE GENERAL IN NEW YORK, AND I HOPED KIEV AUTHORITIES WOULD DO LIKEWISE WITH REGARD TO OUR REQUESTS IN KIEV.

3. IN RESPONSE, LAVRUKHIN WAS ESSENTIALLY NEGATIVE. HE SAID THAT OUR REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL 3 METERS AT STRELETSKAYA BEYOND WHAT HAD BEEN OFFERED BY SOVIETS COULD NOT BE ACCOMMODATED BECAUSE OF "NEEDS OF INHABITANTS" OF NEIGHBORING BUILDINGS. ON GORKY, HE SAID WE HAD ORIGINALLY AGREED ON SECOND AND THIRD FLOORS, BUT NOW WANTED TO CHANGE TO FIRST AND SECOND. OUR REPEATED CHANGES IN POSITION WERE CAUSING INTOLERABLE DELAYS IN ARRIVING AT NEEDED DECISIONS CONCERNING DISPOSITION OF PROPERTY. WHEN I REPEATED MY HOPE THAT KIEV AUTHORITIES WOULD SHOW FLEXIBILITY AND STRESSED THAT BOTH WE AND SOVIETS WISHED BEST POSSIBLE INSTALLATIONS IN EACH OTHER'S CITIES, LAVRUKHIN DID NOT RESPOND, EXCEPT TO SAY THAT SOVIET POSITIONS ON MATTERS UNDER DISCUSSION WERE "FINAL".

4. LAVRUKHIN AGREED TO RECEIVE TRACY AND PORTER AUG 12 (ALTHOUGH HE WOULD NOT FIX A FIRM TIME UNTIL AFTER TRACY'S ARRIVAL ON THAT DAY), AND HE SEEMED TO REACT FAVORABLY TO MY MENTION THAT ARCHITECT KNOOP WOULD BE RETURNING TO KIEV IN NEAR FUTURE.

5. COMMENT: LAVRUKHIN'S IMMEDIATE REACTION TO MY REMARKS WAS HARDLY ENCOURAGING. IT IS POSSIBLE, OF COURSE, THAT HIS NEGATIVISM WITH ME WAS TACTICAL AND THAT SOME SIGNS OF FLEXIBILITY WILL EMERGE FROM TRACY'S TALK WITH HIM TODAY. ALTHOUGH I MENTIONED SOVIET INSTALLATION IN NEW YORK REPEATEDLY, IT IS NOT CLEAR THAT THIS MADE IMPACT ON LAVRUKHIN OR THAT HE MAKES ANY TIE IN HIS OWN MIND BETWEEN THE TWO PROJECTS. WE WILL BE REPORTING ON TRACY'S CONVERSATIONS AND WILL MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS IN LIGHT OF THEIR RESULTS.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MartinML
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MOSCOW12724
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760310-0508
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760860/aaaacaqp.tel
Line Count: 99
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION FBO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MartinML
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 MAY 2004 by ElyME>; APPROVED <01 SEP 2004 by MartinML>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: KIEV PROPERTIES
TAGS: ABLD, AFSP, UR, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006